



MINUTES

POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 | 8:30 a.m. | 20 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Jacob L. Anderegg, Chair
Rep. Stephen G. Handy, Chair
Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Rep. Cheryl K. Acton
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe
Rep. Kim F. Coleman
Rep. Marsha Judkins
Rep. Merrill F. Nelson
Rep. Val K. Potter
Rep. Lawanna Shurtliff

Rep. Elizabeth Weight
Rep. Logan Wilde

Members Absent:

Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Ann Millner
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings

Staff Present:

Ms. Samantha D. Brucker, Policy Analyst
Ms. Victoria Ashby, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Sidnee Bailey, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1 . Committee Business

Rep. Handy called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m..

MOTION: Chair Anderegg moved to approve the August 21, 2019, meeting minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 7.

Yeas-9

Rep. C. Acton
Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. S. Handy
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. M. Nelson
Rep. V. Potter
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight
Rep. L. Wilde

Nays-0

Absent-7

Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. K. Coleman
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. E. Hutchings
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. L. Shurtliff

2 . County Classifications

Samantha Brucker, Policy Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, presented an overview of Utah's County Classifications and answered questions from the committee.

[2A - Title 17-50-501](#)

[2A - County Classification Presentation](#)

[2A - County Classification Research Overview](#)

[2A - Digest of Statutes](#)

Lincoln Shurtz, Utah Association of Counties, discussed the current state of Utah Counties, how the classification process affects them, and responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Andrew Jackson, Executive Director, Mountainland Association of Governments, discussed details of seniors and transportation in different counties.

Nate Sechrest, Utah County, discussed Utah County's dedication to helping with the issue.

3 . Changing Forms of County Government

Victoria Ashby, Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, presented an overview of the process to change a county's form of government and responded to questions and comments from the committee.

3A - County Classifications Presentation

[3A - Forms of County Government](#)

[3A - Process to Change a County's Form of Government - Flow Chart](#)

Lincoln Shurtz answered questions from the committee, and discussed the process of changing forms of government.

MOTION: Sen. Anderegg moved to open a committee bill file to amend the process of changing a county's form of government. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 4.

Yeas-12

Rep. C. Acton
Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. K. Coleman
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. V. Potter
Rep. L. Shurtliff
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight
Rep. L. Wilde

Nays-0

Absent-4

Rep. E. Hutchings
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. M. Nelson

Andrew Jackson discussed the history of the current system of changing governments.

Rep. Phil Lyman discussed the importance of fixing the issue.

4 . Appointed vs. Elected Officials

Lincoln Shurtz opened a discussion about appointed vs. elected officials.

Curtis Koch, Clerk Auditor, Davis County, asked the legislature to focus on the checks and balances within county government and responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Damon Cann, Political Science Interim Department Head, Utah State University, and Mayor, North Logan, presented an overview with a background in academic research about pros and cons in electing vs. appointing officials and responded to comments and questions from the committee.

Luke Peterson, Professor, Utah Valley University, presented a county governance benchmarking study and responded to questions and comments from the committee.

[4C - County Governance Benchmarking](#)

5 . Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Potter moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 6.

Yeas-10

Rep. C. Acton
Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. V. Potter
Rep. L. Shurtliff
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight
Rep. L. Wilde

Nays-0

Absent-6

Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. K. Coleman
Rep. E. Hutchings
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. M. Nelson

Chair Handy Closed the meeting at 10:55 a.m..